

CREATIVE®

PRODiKEYS™



User's Guide

User's Guide

Creative Prodikeys DM

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Introduction

Introduction

Introduction

Thank you for choosing Creative Prodikeys® DM, another quality product from Creative Technology Ltd., the worldwide leader in digital entertainment products.

Creative Prodikeys DM is a revolutionary keyboard that consists of both a computer keyboard and a music keyboard with 37 touch-sensitive MIDI keys. It comes with the new Creative Prodikeys DM software, which makes it easier than ever to create music on your computer.

Creative Prodikeys DM is for everyone, even if you have no background in music. With Creative Prodikeys DM, you can create music easily. Learn to play songs in a fun and easy way. You can even record what you have played, and then send it to friends or post it on the Internet.

Learning and producing music has never been easier.

Minimum System Requirements

Your Prodikeys DM requires at least:

- ☐ Intel® Pentium® 233 MHz (or faster) processor
- ☐ Desktop computer system with Intel or 100% compatible motherboard chipset (Notebooks currently not supported)
- ☐ PS/2 keyboard port
- ☐ 128 MB RAM
- ☐ 360 MB free hard disk space
- ☐ Microsoft® Windows® 98 SE, Windows Me, Windows 2000 or Windows XP
- ☐ Onboard audio device or audio card (Sound Blaster® audio card recommended)
- ☐ CD-ROM drive for software installation
- ☐ Speakers or headphones
- ☐ Internet connection for downloading Internet content

More Help

In the Creative Prodikeys DM software, the **How to Play** button offers basic step-by-step instructions on using the mode that you are currently in. For detailed information, click the **Help** button.

Getting More Information

Visit www.creative.com or www.prodikeys.com for the latest news and updates on your Creative Prodikeys DM. Additional content such as Fun Mixes, Penta Tunes, Rhythms and Learnable Songs can also be downloaded from the websites.

Online Registration

Enjoy a host of benefits by registering your products during installation, or at www.creative.com/register. Benefits include:

- Service and product support from Creative
- Exclusive updates on promotions and events

Technical Support and Warranty

Technical Support information can be found in the Installation CD.
d:\Support\<Language>\Support.pdf.

For Warranty information, can also be found in the Installation CD.
d:\Warranty\<Region>\<Language>\Warranty.pdf

(replace d: with the drive letter of your CD-ROM; <Region> represents the region you are in, and <Language> represents the language the document is in).

Please keep your Proof of Purchase for the duration of the Warranty period.

Document Conventions



Tip. This tells you about short cuts or hints relating to a feature.



Note. This highlights additional or important information about a feature.



Caution! This highlights proper usage of your product. Use this information to avoid risky situations.



Warning! This warns you of possible hazards to yourself or your product, that may result in injury or damage.

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1

About Your Creative Prodikeys
DM

About Your Creative Prodikeys DM

In this chapter, we will familiarize you with the different parts of your Prodikeys DM, so that you can follow the instructions in the other chapters easily.

Parts of your Creative Prodikeys DM



To use the music keyboard, start the included Prodikeys DM software.



To program the Hot Keys, use the **Hot Keys Configuration software** in the Creative Prodikeys program group.



*Windows 98 users can visit **www.prodikeys.com** for the latest drivers.

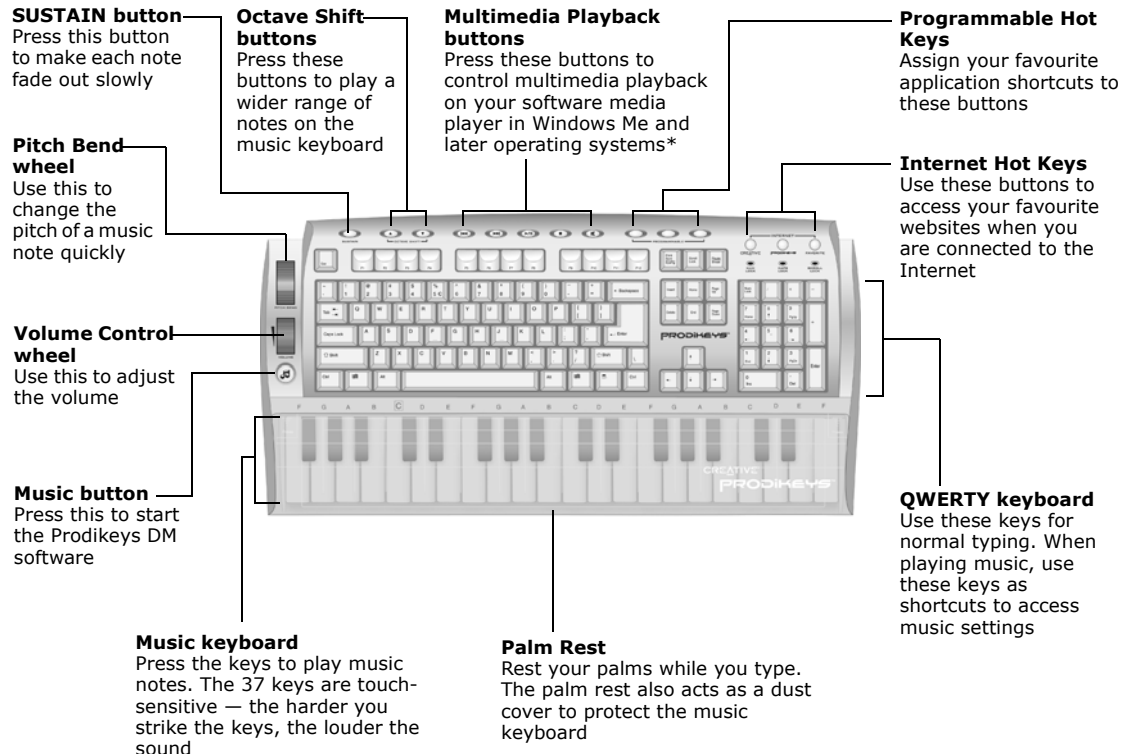


Figure 1-1: Parts of your Creative Prodikeys DM

Removing the Music Keyboard Cover

The music keyboard on your Creative Prodikeys DM is protected by a cover, which also acts as a palm rest as you type. To use the music keyboard, you will need to remove the cover.

To remove the palm rest: Press down the upper corners of the cover and slide it out, as shown below.



Figure 1-2: Removing the palm rest.

Maintaining Creative Prodikeys DM

To clean your Prodikeys DM, use a soft, damp cloth to clean the exterior. Do not use any liquid or aerosol cleaners as these may damage your keyboard.

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2

Setting Up Your Creative
Prodikeys DM

Setting Up Your Creative Prodikeys DM

Installing Hardware



Creative Prodikeys DM is not hot-pluggable. You must turn off your computer before connecting or disconnecting Creative Prodikeys DM.

Connect your Creative Prodikeys DM to your computer's PS/2 keyboard port as shown below.

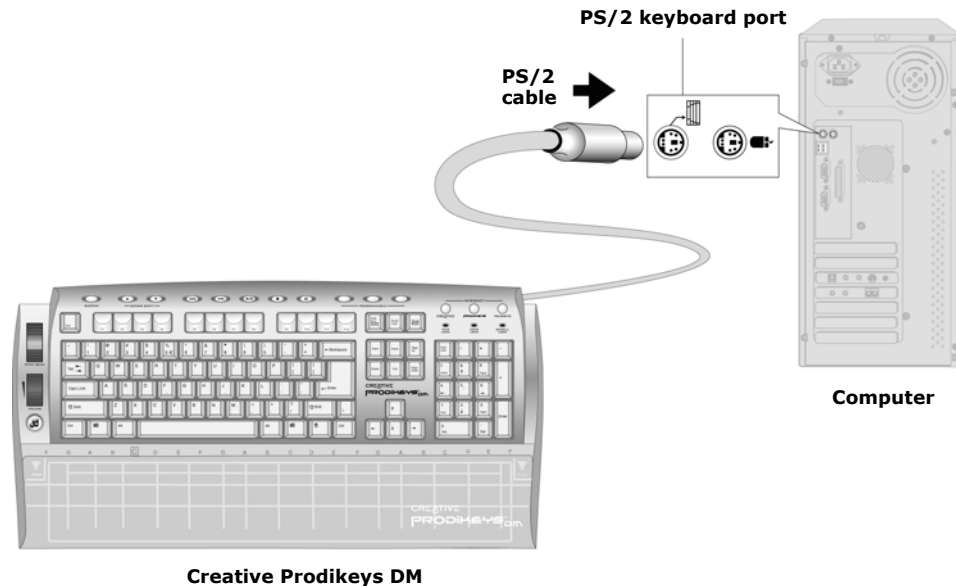


Figure 2-1: Connecting Creative Prodikeys DM to your computer.

Installing Software



You have to install the included software for your Creative Prodikeys DM to function as a music keyboard. Third-party MIDI software can also be used.

To install the software:

1. Insert the Creative Prodikeys DM software Installation CD into your CD-ROM drive. An installation screen appears. If not, start Windows Explorer, right-click the CD-ROM drive icon, and then select **AutoPlay**.
2. Follow the instructions on the screen to complete the installation.
3. Restart the computer when prompted to do so.

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3

Getting Started

Getting Started

Starting the Software



After starting the software, press the **Music** button to switch between minimized and maximized views.

You will need to start the included Creative Prodikeys DM software before you can fully use the Creative Prodikeys DM's music keyboard.

To start the software: Press the **Music** button on the Creative Prodikeys DM keyboard.

**Music
button**



Figure 3-1: Creative Prodikeys DM keyboard.

Learning how to use the Software



Press the **Music** button to switch between minimized and maximized views of the Prodikeys software.

After launching the software, you should see a screen similar to Figure 3-2.

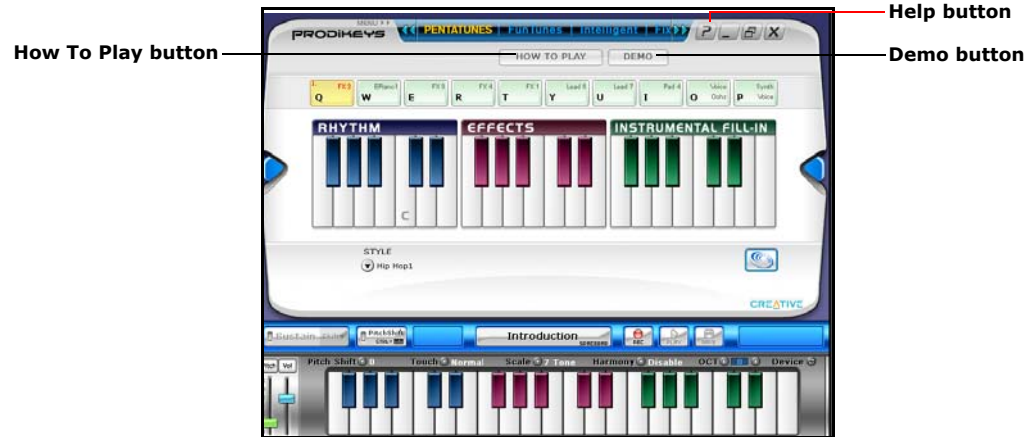


Figure 3-2: Creative Prodikeys DM software startup screen — PentaTunes mode

For a simple demonstration of what you can do with the software, click the **Demo** button. The **Demo** button can be found in the PentaTunes and FunTunes modes.

For basic step-by-step instructions on using the mode that you are currently in, click the **How to Play** button.

For instructions on how to use the software, click the **Help** button and refer to the Help file.

This Help file contains a tutorial that is designed to give you a quick overview of how to use the software. We recommend that you read through all the lessons of the tutorial before you begin using the software.

If you have completed the tutorial and need help while using the software, you can quickly refer to specific Help topics in the Help file for detailed instructions.

Play Modes

The six different Play Modes of your Prodikeys DM software allow you to have fun playing and learning music. Press the **How To Play** button in each mode for more information.



PentaTunes mode



FunTunes mode



Intelligent mode



FixedChord mode



Learn mode



Perform mode

Programming the Hot Keys

Some of the buttons on your keyboard marked "Internet" and "Programmable" can be programmed using the Hot Keys Configuration software installed during setup. To program or reprogram a key, press and hold down the key for about two seconds. The Hot Keys Configuration software will launch automatically. Alternatively, you can locate the program's shortcut in your Start Menu, inside the Creative Prodikeys program group.

Configuring Power Management settings

If you have enabled power saving or power management on your computer, you should set your monitor's power management properties to **Never**. You should also configure your screen saver so that it deactivates when you move your mouse.

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A

General Specifications

General Specifications

General Specifications

- ☐ Standard IBM-compatible computer PS/2 keyboard with 104 keys
- ☐ Integrated music keyboard with 37 touch-sensitive accordion-sized MIDI keys (also acts as a standard MIDI input device)
- ☐ PS/2 connector for connecting to computer's PS/2 keyboard port
- ☐ Removable palm rest
- ☐ Pitch Bend wheel
- ☐ Volume Control wheel
- ☐ MUSIC button
- ☐ Sustain button
- ☐ Octave Shift buttons
- ☐ Multimedia Playback buttons
- ☐ Internet Hot Keys
- ☐ Programmable Hot Keys

Software features

- ☐ Six different modes for easy music playing and learning: Fun Tunes, Penta Tunes, Learn, Intelligent Chord, Fixed Chord, Perform
- ☐ Step-by-Step "How To Play" instructional guide
- ☐ FunTunes and PentaTunes modes with matching rhythm, instrumental and effect presets for simple music playing
- ☐ Learn mode with five guided lessons
- ☐ Perform mode for easy customizable chord accompaniment with Function Key Chords
- ☐ Intelligent and Fixed Chord mode for auto-generated accompaniment to music playing
- ☐ Scoring system to monitor learning progress
- ☐ Up to 50 songs included (easy, average and difficult categories) for learning
- ☐ Up to 128 General MIDI instruments and sound effects
- ☐ Up to 100 rhythms classified under 10 style categories: Ballad, Slow Ballad, Pop, Dance, Rock & Roll, Old Latin, Modern Latin, Jazz, World Music and Folk
- ☐ Record function for saving music in MP3, Wav or MIDI formats
- ☐ Downloadable and expandable content libraries for PentaTunes, FunTunes, Rhythms and Learnable Songs

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B

Troubleshooting

Troubleshooting

Problems with installing Creative Prodikeys DM

Creative Prodikeys DM cannot be detected, even after the connections are checked and the software installed.

There may be a conflict with a USB Legacy Device setting on your computer's motherboard.

Refer to your computer's motherboard manual to disable the USB Legacy Device setting.